

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 535
By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the late R. E. "Bobby" Holden's astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to permanently commemorate the accomplishments of those exemplary public servants who, during their lifetimes, contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of this State; and

WHEREAS, the late R. E. "Bobby" Holden and his pioneering achievements in service of the State Area Vocational Technical School, currently known as the Tennessee Technology Center, at Shelbyville, should be appropriately memorialized; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holden was a consummate professional and active member of his community who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, devoted to personal development, R. E. "Bobby" Holden graduated from Christiana High School in 1946, and for four years afterwards he valiantly and proudly served his country as a member of the United States Navy; after completing his military service, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State University in 1962, and later completed post-graduate work in Industrial Education at the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holden began his professional career as a Vocational Education Teacher in Anderson County; from 1964 until 1976, he served with great acumen as the first Assistant Director of the State Area Vocational Technical School at Shelbyville; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, R. E. "Bobby" Holden became Director of the State Area Vocational Technical School, now known as the Tennessee Technology Center, at Shelbyville, and he served astutely in that position until his well deserved retirement in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holden was the inspiration and motivating force behind the first expansion of the State Area Vocational Technical School at Shelbyville in 1981; his determined

and successful campaign effectively doubled the size of the school and housed all of its programs on campus; and

WHEREAS, R. E. "Bobby" Holden guided the State Area Vocational Technical School at Shelbyville through a period of tremendous growth, from six full-time programs to ten full-time programs, plus the addition of numerous part-time programs; he also promoted new opportunities for students at the school, as reflected by the increase in student enrollment from 41 to 491 students under his watch; moreover, Mr. Holden guided the school through a change in governance from the Tennessee Department of Education to the Tennessee Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, R. E. "Bobby" Holden was also deeply devoted to his wife and his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, R. E. "Bobby" Holden demonstrated a remarkable determination and ability to get things done with limited resources, and it is proper that he should be posthumously honored for his many invaluable contributions to the Tennessee Technology Center at Shelbyville; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Technology Center at Shelbyville is honoring the memory of R.E. "Bobby" Holden by naming the administrative office complex "The R.E. 'Bobby' Holden Administrative Office Complex" as a lasting tribute to Mr. Holden's outstanding career and his dedication to career and technical education; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize the late R.E. "Bobby" Holden's astute service and dedication to the good people of Tennessee and the Tennessee Technology Center at Shelbyville.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.